

COUNTY AGENTS ATTEND COLLEGE SHORT COURSES

Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 21.—The progress in agricultural extension work during the year 1927 was reviewed and plans made for the coming year by the 130 farm and home agents who attended the conference and short course at State College during the week of December 12.

The agents spent the entire week in refreshing themselves with the latest facts found about scientific farming and home making. The afternoons were spent on attendance at classes and demonstrations, while the morning hours were occupied with lectures, speeches, and conference discussions. Attention was given to livestock and field crops, poultry and horticulture, plant diseases and insect pests, farm organization and better methods of serving the agricultural population of North Carolina.

The evening hours were left open for social diversion which included gatherings of the men and women at various affairs given in their honor. There were a number of dinner parties, a Christmas tree, and evenings devoted to games and other diversions.

The agents went to their work each morning at 8:45 o'clock and remained on duty until five. Some of the outstanding agricultural leaders of North Carolina and of the Nation were on the program during the week. The United States Department of Agriculture was represented with some of its best known scientists while the faculty of State College was also drawn upon for some of the lectures. Miss Maude Wallace, assistant state home demonstration agent, had charge of the program for the women and of extension was in charge of the farm agents. Dean I. O. Schaub of the School of Agriculture presided at all the joint conferences.

Despite the intensive program of work, the agents stated that it was one of the most profitable conferences that they had ever held.

POWER FARMING INCREASES IN EASTERN CAROLINA

Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 21.—Farming methods are changing from the mule and small plow to tractors and modern equipment as diversified farming replaces the old one crop system

in eastern Carolina. "The sale of 84 modern tractors of a standard make in a small territory adjacent to Washington, Beaufort county, during the last two years is but one good indication of the change being made in farming in that section," says A. T. Holman, agricultural engineer at State College. "Small tractors have been used on many North Carolina farms during recent years. The chief use, however, has been in preparing land for planting. Recently the field of the tractor has been broadened to include the planting, cultivating and harvesting operations."

Mr. Holman states that successful diversified farming requires the use of good farm machinery and the tractor that is adapted to planting, cultivating and harvesting as well as for plowing, disking and belt work is finding a warm reception among farmers.

The New Holland Cooperation of Hyde County is now operating some sixteen tractors on its farms. Each of those tractors, states Mr. Holman, is used in plowing, disking, planting, cultivating harvesting on 100 acres of land. Next year, the plans are to use 32 tractors on 3,200 acres comprising part of the bottom of Lake Mattanoskeet. His corporation will also use the "combine" to cut, thrash and sack the soybean crop. Two men can operate this machine with little loss of time.

Mr. Holman states that the use of the tractor and its equipment is rapidly growing and that this is but another sound indication of the progressive farming ideas that are being adopted over the whole State

STATE'S BEST FARMERS RECEIVE HIGH HONORS

Raleigh, N. C. Dec 21.—Twenty-four farmers, the best in North Carolina were honored in Raleigh last week through the joint action of the North Carolina State College and the Progressive Farmer. Eighteen of these Master Farmers chosen through a careful and painstaking survey conducted during the present year while the other six had already been honored by the college for achievements in the past.

In addition to the twenty-four men who received the gold medals and

other significant recognition at a banquet held by the Progressive Farmer on Friday night, December 16, forty four other men and women received honorable mention for the fine results they have achieved as farmers and community builders.

The idea of searching out the best farmers of the State was developed at the conference of extension workers held at State college in December 1926. The plan was put under way early in 1927 and a painstaking search was at once begun. The extension workers and other agricultural leaders assisted the Progressive Farmer staff in finding the men wanted. The work was begun in the counties through the aid of a special committee and then the various men and women who were nominated were visited and their farms carefully inspected and scored. The score card used took into consideration the character and general reputation of the nominee the operation and organization of his farm, his business methods and ability, the general appearance and upkeep of his farm, his home life and citizenship.

Those honored with the gold medals were: J. L. Beall, Davidson county; J. C. Causey, Guilford; L. H. Kit chen, Halifax; O. J. Holler, Rutherford; Charles F. Cates, Alamance; S. L. Carpenter, Gaston; Charles E. Fuller, Vance; W. B. Harris, Iredell; Fred P. Lathan, Beaufort; B. S. Lawrence, Randolph; T. E. Osborne, Henderson; Blancey Sumrell, Pitt; B. N. Sykes, Hertford; C. W. Teague, Macon; C. B. Wells, Buncombe; John D. Winstead, Person; L. O. Moseley, Lenoir; G. W. Trask, New Hanover; W. D. Graham, Rowan; S. A. Lathan, Union; B. F. Shelton, Edgecombe; R. W. Scott, Alamance; R. L. Shuford, Catawba and E. A. Stevens, Wayne County.

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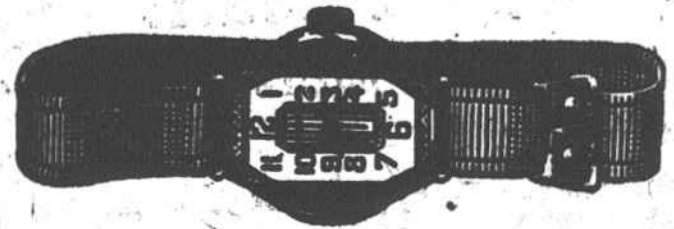
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